



The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 25 August 1967



50X1

DAILY BRIEF
25 AUGUST 1967

1. Vietnam

50X1

2. Hong Kong

Local Communists have been instructed to fight their own battles and not expect military support from the mainland. This decision seems to have been reflected in yesterday's events at the border, when Chinese Communist troops turned back a howling anti-British mob and prevented it from entering the colony. Peking evidently regards small groups of screaming demonstrators as permissible but is still reluctant to run the risk of letting a major brawl develop.

3. Thailand

Communist guerrillas in the northeast have become less aggressive recently. They now are concentrating on strengthening their organization at the village level and trying to remedy supply difficulties that have created morale problems within their ranks. We believe that while they may solve their immediate problems, their long-range potential is still low because of poor organization and lack of grass roots support.

50X1

4. Congo

Mobutu is scrapping the move for a negotiated settlement of the mercenary problem and is now saying that a military "solution" is the only way out. Just what plans he has in mind in this regard are unclear. His military forces are still outclassed and outgunned by the mercenaries, and he has been unable to wangle significant military assistance from Western countries.

There are also indications that Colonel Schramme's mercenaries might get some help and reinforcements from other mercenaries now gathering in Angola. The timing and nature of such help are still obscure, however.

5. Nigeria

In addition to their military push into the West, the Biafrans have infiltrated agents there to stir up the Yorubas and encourage them to take the region out of the federation. Other Biafran volunteers may be in Lagos in hopes of assassinating General Gowon and other leaders.

The military situation is still murky, but it is clear that both sides are still building up their arms supplies. The federal government may soon use some new armored cars it received from France.

50X1

The Biafrans are also now receiving a fair amount of heavy military equipment from commercial European arms dealers.

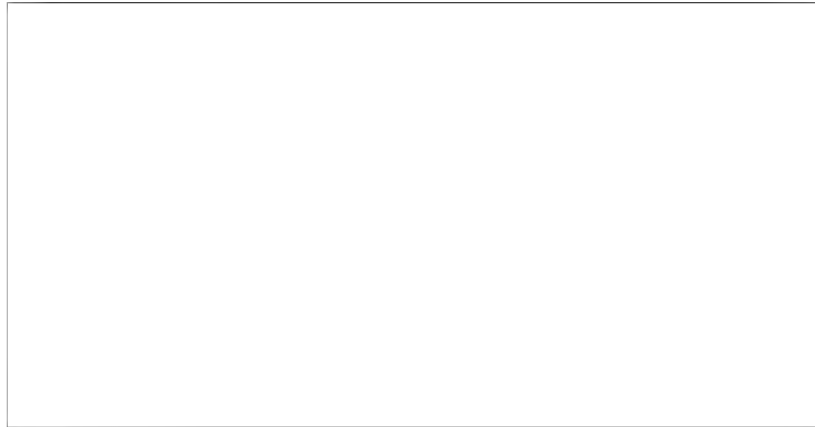
50X1

6. Arab States

Tito has completed his peace-making sortie into the Arab world and is generally pleased with the results. We believe his efforts resulted in no real progress, however. Tito's next move may be to try to get India to chime in and urge the Arabs toward a peaceful settlement with Israel and then to seek a new United Nations General Assembly go-around on the whole affair.

7. Aden

50X1



Top Secret